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Date

Tami M. Procopio

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Tracy D. WILKINS, et al.

Serial No.:

09/545,772

Filing Date:

10 April 2000

For:

RECOMBINANT TOXIN A PROTEIN

CARRIER FOR POLYSACCHARIDE

CONJUGATE VACCINES

Examiner: Vanessa L. Ford

Group Art Unit: 1645

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

**Assistant Commissioner for Patents** Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This is in response to an Office Action herein mailed 26 November 2001, time for response to which was set to expire 26 February 2002. A petition for an extension of time of two (2) months until 26 April 2002 is attached hereto, along with the required fee. The considered claims, claims 1-39 were rejected. Careful consideration has been given to the grounds for rejection, and the following amendment and discussion are offered in response. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Enclosed is the following Exhibit A: Marked-up Version of Amendments to the Claims.